Apart from this, there is a potential of about 1000 MW for power generation from bio-degradable industrial wastes comprising mainly effluent. Under the programme being implemented by the Ministry, 21 such projects of aggregate capacity 26 MW have so far been installed in various industries.

Use of alternative fuel resources

†3879 . SHRI LALIT KISHORE CHATURVEDI: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rising prices of oil in international market has adversely affected the economic growth rate and foreign exchange reserve of India;

(b) whether any bio-diesel based system is under consideration in this regard;

(c) whether the technology and vegetation for manufacturing bio-diesel is available or could be made available in the country; and

(d) if so, the action being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (d) No, Sir. India's growth rate during the last three years, along with foreign exchange reserves, have been at comfortable levels. However, keeping in view the rising prices of petroleum products, alternative energy sources to petroleum products are being explored. A National Mission on Bio-diesel has been taken up in the country under the Ministry of Rural Development for plantation of Jatropha in 4 lakh hectares of waste/forest lands for production of Biodiesel.

Power Plant Project

3880.SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) how many power plant project proposals are pending for clearance;

(b) how long are they pending; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the normal time taken for giving clearance?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI VILAS MUTTEMWAR): (a) to (c) As per the Electricity Act, 2003 generation of power has been de-licensed except for generation through hydro power provided it meets technical standards for grid-connectivity. Environmental and other statutory clearances for such projects are also required. Renewable power projects pertaining to small hydro, biomass, congeneration, etc. are eligible for grant of central financial assistance in keeping with the provisions of the schemes/programmes of this Ministry. Proposals in this regard are recieved on a regular basis through State Governments/ Designated State nodal agencies. At times, these proposals are found to be incomplete or not in line with the provisions of the schemes/ programmes. Complete proposals are considered and approved subject to budget provisions. As such, no such project proposals are pending for want of clearance.

Establishment of Tsunami Warning System

3881. SHRI T.T.V. DHINAKARAN:
SHRI S. ANBALAGAN:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps for the establishment of Tsunami Warning System in Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea;

(b) if so, the details thereof including location and the likely date of their functioning; and

(c) if not, the reasons for slow progress therein despite experiencing such huge loss of life and property?

THE MINISTER OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL):(a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Government is setting up a National Early Warning System for Tsunami and Storm Surges in Indian Ocean at a total cost of Rs. 125 crores with the following component:

- installation of tsunami warning sensors close to the ocean bottom at appropriate locals in the Indian Ocean, with real time connectivity;